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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,271	09/11/2003	Shigenori Yaguchi	H64-154426M/MNN	5631

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EXAMINER

GOODROW, JOHN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1756

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/659,271

Applicant(s)

YAGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

John L. Goodrow

Art Unit

1756

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. Claims 1,2,6,7-9 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yoshino et al [6677093]. Yoshino et al teaches an electrophotographic black toner as a two or one component developer note Col.1 lines 35-45. The black pigment has a hematite structure for the metal oxide. The metal oxide may further contain additional metal atoms such as Ti note Col.9 lines 5-40. The electrophotographic toner may contain external additives outside the toner particles note Col. 13 lines 1-10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-12 14, 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi et al [6130017] in view of JP 2002-129063 and 2000-319021. Hayashi et al teaches a black electrophotographic toner utilized as a toner in an image forming system. The black toner is a metal oxide with a Ti element. Both a one component and two component developer is utilized note Col. 1 lines 15-20 and Col.8 lines 45-55. Fine particles may be added to the developer note Col.9 lines 15-35. BET surface area is an important physical property of the toner as noted in Col.11 and Col. 12. The exclusion of carbon is taught by JP 2002-129063 note [0006]-[0008] in the formation of a metal oxide black toner. The measurement of oil absorption is taught in JP 2000-319021 [0024]. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention with a reasonable expectation of success to use the black metal oxides as

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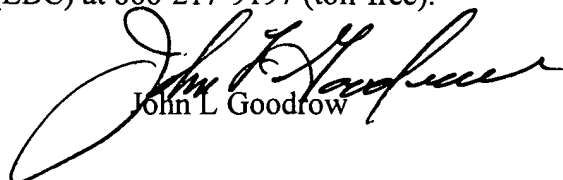
the black toner in a toner composition utilized in a known image forming method utilizing electrophotographic developers.

Claims 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-129063 in view of Yaguchi et al. JP 2002-129063 teaches a toner and carrier used in a magnetic developing system the use of a forward and backward magnetic roll is taught by Yaguchi et al {0234} in reference to center feed type developing units from JP-B-62-45552. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention with a reasonable expectation of success to use center feed units as the magnetic rolls with a black metal oxide toner in the development of image.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John L. Goodrow whose telephone number is 571-272-1384. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark F. Huff can be reached on 571-272-1385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


John L. Goodrow